

Risperdal (risperidone)

Parent Information Sheet

Why it is prescribed

Risperdal is used to treat nervous, mental and emotional conditions, such as disordered thinking, phobias or fears, anxiety, depression and severe behavioral problems in children. Risperdal is also used to treat motor or vocal tics associated with Tourette's Syndrome.

How to give Risperdal

- Risperdal is prescribed only for use by the patient whose name appears on the prescription.
- Risperdal requires adult supervision at home and at school. Your child should not be expected to remember to take the medication on his/her own. Your school will require a form for school medication administration signed by the doctor.
- Give Risperdal exactly as your doctor has prescribed
- Do not give Risperdal more often or in larger doses than what your doctor has ordered. If you have any questions or concerns about the current medication, call your doctor's office.
- If you miss a dose take the missed dose as soon as possible; then take the remaining doses for that day at regularly spaced times. Do not give a double dose.
- Never discontinue your child's medication without first consulting a doctor.

*The phone number to the office is
(313) 832-1100 ext. 220.*

Side Effects

The most **common** (but infrequent): dizziness, low blood pressure, dry mouth, visual disturbances, sudden muscle spasms, excessive thirst, frequent urination, and stomach upset.

Serious (but rare): severe muscle stiffness or abnormal posture, altered mental ability, irregular pulse, increased body heat and sweating, uncontrolled movement of tongue, mouth, jaws, arms or legs.

Call the clinic at (313) 832-1100 or go the nearest emergency room if any serious side effects occur.

Special Considerations

- Risperdal increases sensitivity to the sun. Wear protective clothing and use a sunscreen (SPF 15 or above) during sun exposure.
- Combining Risperdal with other medications may alter their actions or produce unwanted side effects. Always tell your doctor about any other drugs (prescription or over-the-counter) you are taking.

Procedure for getting a prescription

- If you require a prescription refill before your next scheduled appointment, please call the clinical services office at (313) 832-1100 ext. 220.
- Please have your pharmacy phone number available before calling for prescription refills.
- The Detroit Institute for Children is not open on weekends or holidays. The clinical services office is open from 8 am till 5 pm Monday through Thursday and 8 am till 12 noon on Fridays.
- If you are overdue for a return appointment or have not kept a scheduled appointment, your child's doctor reserves the right not to prescribe the medication.

**Poison Control Center:
1-800-764-7661 (1-800-POISON-1)**